

Israel funds Gush Emunim

AVIV, Dec. 11 (R). — The Israeli government invested a million pounds (about £70,000) in shops and a factory in Kafr Qaddum, an illegal settlement established a year ago by the religious extremists of the Gush Emunim group in the occupied West Bank. Israeli Radio reported today that a total of six million Israeli pounds (about \$42,000) had been invested in development projects run by settlers. The Israeli government, has repeatedly said it will move the illegal settlers out of the area.

JORDAN TIMES

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

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Curfew lapped on Nablus

AVIV, Dec. 11 (R). — Israeli troops clamped a curfew on the Qasaba quarter (market) of Nablus today following a clash between Arab students and Israeli troops. Students had set up barriers in the streets and were demonstrating in solidarity with the strike against the re-imposed Israeli value-added goods and services. Several students were arrested and the area remained closed. The curfew was later lifted in the morning.

Peace due at Rhodesia talks

PA, Dec. 11 (Agencies). — Talks at the Rhodesia conference today faced the prospect of an early adjournment of even-week-old talks with feelings while awaiting the arrival of British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher from consultations in the U.S. Secretary of State Henry Kissinger.

The nationalists, already impatient at the slow pace of negotiations, considered the prospect of a break before the Dec. 20 date. Mr. Richard with gloom.

An nationalist leader Joshua Nkomo, also in London, welcomed the fact that Dr. Kissinger would arrive directly in the Rhodesia settlement problem.

He held a press conference to say that the United States has done its part in the decolonisation of Rhodesia.

At Salisbury, Rhodesia's white-minority government has banned for several days a rally to welcome Abel Muzorewa back from a new conference tomorrow. Thousands of Africans were expected to line the streets and give a rousing greeting.

AE to have new cabinet

ABU DHABI, Dec. 11 (AFP). — Sheikh Maktum bin Rashid Al Maktum, who resigned as prime minister of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Oct. 28, has been designated to form a new cabinet, an Arab diplomatic source disclosed here today. The new cabinet will consist of economic experts and university diplomats, Kuwaiti newspaper Al Qaws reported.

Sheikh Maktum has been prime minister of the UAE since it became independent in 1972. He is the son of the ruler of the second-biggest oil emirate among the emirates.

The prime minister resigned at the end of the second five-year term of the emirates' President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan, the ruler of Abu Dhabi.

Qasab reported that outgoing Foreign Minister Ahmad bin Ali Al Suwaidi will be named deputy premier, while Sheikh Khalifah bin Ali, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi.



APPEALING MINISTER — Israeli Defence Minister Shimon Peres (centre) chats happily with American executives of the United Jewish Appeal (UJA) in New York, Thursday. Mr. Peres had just ended a speech to the UJA's 1977 National Leadership Dinner in which he expressed himself glad at the 25% increase in funds which the UJA raised for Israel. (AP wirephoto).

Arab council discusses unified economic system, investment legislation

CAIRO, Dec. 11 (Agencies). — The Arab Economic Unity Council (AEUC) will also discuss plans for a unified investment law to encourage Arab investment in development projects.

Rhodesia attacks Mozambique village

MAPUTO, Mozambique, Dec. 11 (R). — Rhodesian planes today attacked a Mozambique village near the Rhodesian border, the Mozambique News Agency reported.

The agency said the planes, backed by heavy artillery, began their attack on the village of Pafuri at 10 a.m. and said it was still going on this afternoon. Pafuri is located near the junction of the Rhodesian, Mozambique and South African borders.

Major appointments to be announced next week

Carter's plans to revive U.S. economy take shape

PLAINS, Georgia, Dec. 11 (R). — Multi-billion dollar programmes to create more jobs and to cut taxes have emerged as President-elect Jimmy Carter's probable blueprint for reviving the sluggish U.S. economy.

The deteriorating economy and lists of candidates for cabinet posts were among issues Mr. Carter studied here during the week-end following two days of talks in Washington with businessmen and members of Congress.

Mr. Carter left Washington last night saying that when he entered the White House on Jan. 20 he would give priority to jobs and would recommend tax cuts only to the extent that they were needed to stimulate the economy.



President-elect Jimmy Carter eyes the White House he is to enter on Jan. 20. Meanwhile, he goes about the business of preparing plans and choosing people for his administration.

the army of eight million unemployed.

One of the chief advocates for tax reductions is Atlanta banker Bert Lance, named as budget director in the Carter administration, who said they were needed because the country was already in another recession.

His views were opposed by Congressman Thomas O'Neill, the new Speaker of the House of Representatives, who thought that Americans would put the extra money in the bank instead of spending it to stimulate production and create new jobs.

The president-elect today put the finishing touches to a list of candidates for senior economic posts, including treasury secretary, and was expected to announce them during a visit to Atlanta next week.

Aides said that Mr. Michael Blumenthal, Chairman of the Board of Bendix Corporation and Mr. Charles Schultz, President Lyndon Johnson's budget director, were the two leading contenders for the treasury post.

May form government-in-exile Palestine council opens meet today

DAMASCUS, Dec. 11 (Agencies). — The Palestine Central Council (PCC) meets here tomorrow to discuss the latest developments in the Palestinian issue amid persistent reports that the formation of a Palestine government-in-exile is in the offing.

It is not yet known whether all Palestinian commando organisations will be represented at the 40-man council meeting, the first since last February.

Efforts are being made to persuade the "Rejection Front" members to attend the meetings.

Two organisations belonging to the "Rejection Front" — the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the pro-Iraq Arab Liberation Front — withdrew from the PCC and the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) Executive Committee last year after claiming that the Executive Committee was seeking a peaceful solution of the issue.

But they still maintain their seats at the council, which liaises between the Palestine National Council and the Executive Committee.

Mr. Yasser Arafat, PLO's Chairman, arrived here tonight to preside over the meeting, according to a Palestinian source.

The source also said the PCC will review the Lebanese events, the role of the commandos in those events and their effect on the Palestinian issue.

It will also discuss relations between the PLO and the Arab states, particularly Syria.

The Palestinian source, however, denied that either the formation of a Palestinian government-in-exile or the creation of a Palestinian state on the West Bank and the Gaza Strip would be a subject of discussion at the PCC meeting.

But the source said there was nothing to prevent a discussion of such questions if members chose to raise them at the meeting.

Beirut resumes night flights

Lebanese M.P. says peace troops arrested PFLP men

BEIRUT, Dec. 11 (Agencies). — Lebanese leftists said today an undisclosed number of their supporters, and followers of the Palestinian "Rejection Front", had been arrested by troops of the Arab peace force.

Leftwing Member of Parliament Albert Mansour told Reuters he had submitted a memorandum today to President Elias Sarkis, nominal commander of the peace force, complaining of a "campaign of arrests of rejectionists and others."

The "Rejection Front", led by Dr. George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), opposes a negotiated settlement with Israel of the Palestinian issue.

Dr. Mansour said today's memorandum maintained that arrests had been made in the Bekaa Valley, east Lebanon, and in the northern town of Tripoli.

In other developments, signs that life was beginning to return to normal in Beirut continued with

news yesterday of the first night landing at the international airport since it was reopened to traffic on Nov. 19.

Also for the first time yesterday, the Port of Beirut resumed operations after a lapse of more than a year. Two cargo ships dropped anchor in the basin least plagued by the shooting, and used their own hoists to unload freight onto the docks.

Yesterday was also marked by resumption of crude oil pumping through the pipeline that links Saudi oil fields with the Lebanese Mediterranean port of Zahrani.

And telephone communications between Beirut and Damascus were restored yesterday after being broken off for more than a year.

But telephone directory information services have not yet resumed, the central operators' office having sustained heavy damage during the war.

Boumedienne gets 99.5% of the vote

ALGIERS, Dec. 11 (R). — Algeria has re-elected President Houari Boumedienne, with more than 99.5 per cent of the voters endorsing his candidacy in a record turnout of nearly 96 per cent.

Under Algeria's new constitution he is head of state, head of the armed forces, head of government and head of national defence for a renewable six-year term.

Announcing the results of yesterday's election, in which President Boumedienne was the only candidate, Interior Minister Mohammed Ben Ahmad Abdul Ghani said today that 7,469,762 people said "yes" to Mr. Boumedienne, some 33,732 said "no" and 12,390 votes were void.

Mr. Boumedienne, a former army colonel who became president after a bloodless coup in 1965, got almost the same percentage of "yes" votes as Mr. Ahmed Ben Bella when he was elected Algeria's first president in 1963.

Mr. Boumedienne called the presidential election, the first in 13 years, as part of his restructuring of domestic politics.

Iranian ministers hold regional talks in UAE, Bahrain

ABU DHABI, Dec. 11, (R). — Iran's Minister of Finance and Economic Affairs Hushang Ansari arrived here today for an official visit in which he is expected to sign a trade protocol.

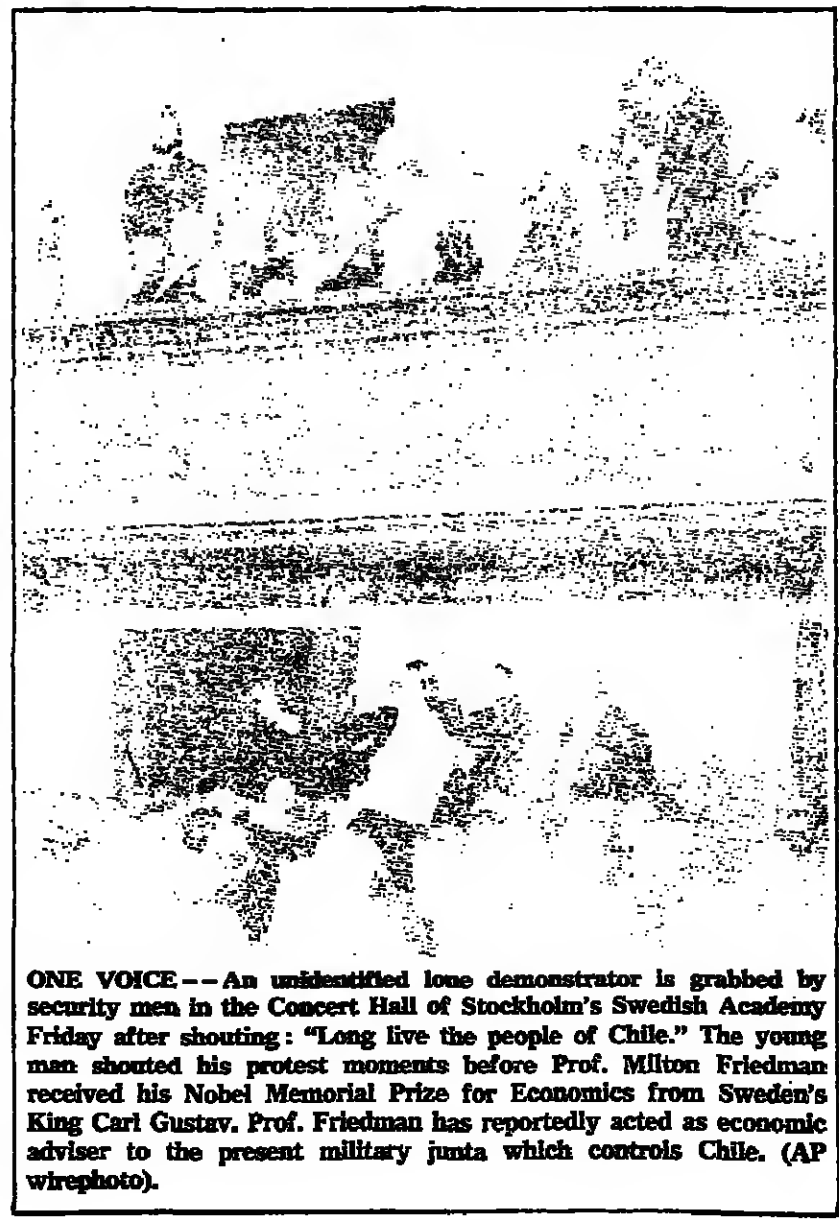
Mr. Ansari flew into Abu Dhabi as Iranian Foreign Minister Abbas Ali Khalatbari left the United Arab Emirates (UAE) capital for Bahrain after a two-day official visit.

Mr. Ansari, who is expected to stay in the UAE about a week, will also represent Iran at celebrations starting tomorrow to mark the fifth anniversary of the creation of the UAE.

Officials said the protocol was aimed at expanding the volume of trade and promotion of economic cooperation between the UAE and Iran.

In Bahrain, Mr. Khalatbari was met by Foreign Minister Sheikh Mohammad bin Mubarak Al Khalifa.

Mr. Khalatbari's Bahrain visit is part of a series he has made to Gulf coastal states in the last month to discuss bilateral relations and regional affairs.



ONE VOICE — An unidentified lone demonstrator is grabbed by security men in the Concert Hall of Stockholm's Swedish Academy Friday after shouting: "Long live the people of Chile." The young man shouted his protest moments before Prof. Milton Friedman received his Nobel Memorial Prize for Economics from Sweden's King Carl Gustav. Prof. Friedman has reportedly acted as economic adviser to the present military junta which controls Chile. (AP wirephoto).

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Premier Badran presides over the meeting with members of the labour unions officials in Amman Saturday. (JNA photo).

Badran reviews labour demands

AMMAN (JNA). — Prime Minister Mudar Badran Saturday received the members of the Executive Committee of the Federation of the Labour Unions and discussed with them a number of their demands related to improving their working conditions and living standards.

These demands included the modernisation of the Labour Law according to the recommendations of the International Labour Organisation and other topics as social security, housing, labour health clinics, labour culture, the skilled manpower drain, the setting up of employment offices, and the establishment of a vocational training directorate. He also reviewed with them the demands of the air transport, railroad, maritime workers in addition to those of the private education sector and those in bakeries and construction.

Mr. Badran called on them to work towards improving the cultural, social and living standards of all workers and invited them to share that responsibility with the government, for alone, "it cannot achieve such a target" he said.

He assured them of the government's concern in relation to the general conditions of labourers and explained to them the concrete steps adopted to ensure to all categories essential commodities at reasonable prices.

At the end of the meeting the President of the General Federation of the Labour Union, Sami Hassan Mansour, thanked Mr. Badran for his government's efforts and stressed the will of the working force to strive to double production.

FRENCH-JEWISH AUTHOR GETS PALESTINE PRIZE

PARIS, Dec. 11 (JNA). — The legal presence in Palestine. Arab-French Friendship Association. The "Palestine Prize" is annual-ly given by the association to the book that best explains the just cause of the Palestinian people. In his book, the author clearly exhibits Israel's racism and its il-

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MADABA '76

Lift company shows it can prosper outside the capital

By Cliff Bale
Special to the Jordan Times
You wouldn't expect to find this in Madaba -- a company for the manufacture of lifts and cranes. In fact it provides the only factory in a predominantly rural area, and not only is it making a profit; it is planning considerable expansion next year.

The Jordan Lift and Crane Manufacturing Company came into existence after a local businessman, Mr. Moris Sawalha, jumped at the opportunity of establishing such a factory in partnership with the West German lift manufacturer Rheinstahl Aufzuge.

Mr. Sawalha was well placed, as sales agent for the company in Jordan, when Rheinstahl decided to establish a factory in the Middle East.

The company, since taken over by the powerful Thyssen Group, considered Kuwait and Bahrain before Mr. Sawalha intervened to tip the balance Jordan's way. Mr. Nazih Abdo, the plant manager, explained.

This move established the joint Jordanian-West German enterprise. Jordanian interests -- in particular Mr. Sawalha -- hold a 51 per cent controlling share, and Rheinstahl holds the remaining 49 per cent.

Government tax concessions for companies setting themselves up outside the congested capital were important in persuading Mr. Sawalha to start production in Madaba -- just a stone's throw away from the capital's market.

Tax concessions will last a full seven years, and not five for factories established inside the Amman region.

Other factors favouring Madaba included cheaper land -- at the time 50 per cent cheaper, and a

lower wage bill. Workers accept an important export of 10-20 per cent than in Amman, Jordan.

Mr. Abdo stated. Mr. Sawalha's local patriotism, these circumstances, that finally made the company decide to set up its plant in Madaba, and so in January 1975 production started from the factory, overlooking the town's wheat belts.

The company devotes most of its efforts to the manufacture of lifts, but it has a sideline in the production of overhead cranes with a 10-tonne capacity and a 20-metre span.

Initial production targets fell short of actual demand in 1975, the first full year of production. The company estimated the need to produce 60 lifts for that year, but this has doubled and actual production may even reach 150 by the end of the year.

Demand in Jordan has increased dramatically -- from an initial 10 up to 40 per year. The decision to allow the construction of high-rise buildings has undoubtedly boosted demand.

Sales extend beyond Jordan's frontiers -- even as far as Abu Dhabi and Dubai. Syria in particular, Iraq and Saudi Arabia are other major importers. The company, by sheer persistence in searching out markets, is becoming

Mr. Abdo stressed. A chief erector will arrive from Rheinstahl at the end of the year to train about 35 students in the company's work.

The company already has a number of erectors outside Jordan to ensure the complete installation work -- 25 in Syria, 10 in Dubai, in addition to 14 in Jordan.

To ensure continued growth, the company will expand its capital and receive a JD 40,000 from the Industrial Development Bank, in addition to receiving from its German mother company.

The extent of the capitalisation has not yet been finalised, but Mr. Abdo estimated JD 40,000 as the new figure.

The success of the Jordan Lift and Crane Manufacturing Company is a success for Madaba, should be an example for companies wishing to set up outside Amman, Mr. Abdo added.

Arab press conference to be held in Algiers

DAMASCUS, Dec. 11 (JNA). — Three press delegations representing Jordan, Syria and Lebanon have left here for Algiers today to attend the fifth Arab press conference to be opened by Algerian President Houari Boumediene on Monday.

Press situation and activities during last year, will be among some of the leading subjects to be discussed in the conference.

The four-day conference will split up into political, press freedom and professional sub-committees.

Mr. Mohammad Jeelani heads the Jordanian delegation with Hassan Al Tal and Mr. Mahmoud Atallah as members.

Jordan attends Arab industrial development meet

AMMAN (JNA). — A Jordanian delegation Sunday leaves for Baghdad to participate in the Arab industrial development conference, where a discussion of a new strategy for Arab industrial development will take place.

Jordan will present a work paper including suggestions on Arab industrial cooperation as a step towards complete economic integration.

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The loneliness of Israel

The little two-day drama that was played out at the United Nations General Assembly this week has been great fun to watch, and has been instructive. We mean, of course, the drama that saw Israel introduce a resolution calling for the Geneva Middle East Peace Conference to resume without the participation of the PLO, only to have the resolution amended by others to include the PLO, to be followed by Israel's retraction of its original resolution and an overwhelming vote of 122-2 in favour of the final resolution that calls for the Geneva conference to reconvene by March 1977 with the participation of the PLO as a full member. The Israelis, as was to be expected, were not pleased, and their displeasure was succinctly expressed by Foreign Ministry officials who said that Israel rejects the General Assembly resolutions and sees them as further proof of Arab "extremism" that does not serve the cause of peace.

But Israel should keep in mind that while it can "reject" a U.N. resolution, it cannot reject the truth that gave birth to the resolution, or the circumstances that cause 122 nations of the world to say that they want the PLO to participate in the Geneva talks. Israel has done many things to the truth, but it has never been able to completely evade it, and this latest U.N. vote will only make this more clear and more urgent to those little people in Israel who seek to make themselves big by standing on top of American fighter jets. They can twist and turn the truth, but they cannot hide from it forever.

The Israeli Foreign Ministry has also expressed its "discouragement" at the "total solitude" that Israel and the U.S. found in that solemn U.N. chamber when the final vote came out to be 122-2. Is this surprising? Not really, if for no other reason than the instinctive process of nature that causes a species to isolate its sick and ailing children.

What is happening, and what shall continue to happen as the international peace momentum grows and grows, is that the Israelis and their incorrigibly masochistic American friends are being asked gently to cut short this sick show they have perpetuated in the Middle East. The Israelis have hoodwinked the world for three-quarters of a century, but they are unable to see the truth when the world tries to tell them that the hoax is over. Whether it is the children of Palestine throwing stones at their troops, or the nations of the world voting resolutions of peace, the Israelis will go on forever trying to make believe that neither the children of Palestine nor the nations of the world exist. Because the Israelis believe that they can reject General Assembly resolutions, they also believe that they can reject anything else on this earth.

But can they? And for how long?

The process that Israel will have to go through in the coming years will be the most difficult it has ever experienced. It is the process of peace, which means an adherence to realistic goals and human proportions. Israel has survived as it has to date because of its intemperance and its super-human self-perception, both of which cause it to cover up the truths of this world with the only instruments it has mastered -- the instruments of war. Israel is better at killing Palestinians than at learning to live with them, as it is better at rescuing hostages at Entebbe airport than in making sure there is no good reason for them to be taken there in the first place.

Israel is rightly worried about its solitude at the United Nations. It knows better than anyone else that it is likely to be all alone there very soon -- without even the vote of the United States -- because it knows that it has secured American diplomatic support through a long and sophisticated process of blackmail, deception and playing on false emotions. The Americans, for the most part, realise this too, but it is difficult for the hostage to speak up very loudly, and so the Americans nod obediently and keep walking. This has gone on for three-quarters of a century, which is much longer than anybody could rightly have expected a hoax of lies and death to be put over on the people of the world. The package of tricks is falling apart, however, but the only thing the Israelis can see is that they are almost alone at the U.N. Their answer to all this is to "reject" it, and to dwell upon their isolation, when they should ponder more vigorously how to make peace with the Palestinian nation, wherein lies the end of their wanderings and their isolation.

They will learn with time that solitude does not come from being without the company of people, but rather from being without the truth. They shall also learn that the company of the American vote in the General Assembly does not lessen their isolation, but only increases it. When Israel learns this, it shall be ready to make -- and to endure -- peace.

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NOTICE

The Welcoming Committee of the British Women of Amman is holding the monthly afternoon get together at the Orthodox Club on Tuesday Dec. 14 from 3.30-6 p.m.

Philippines government, southern separatists to hold talks in Libya

MANILA, Dec. 11 (R). — A Philippine delegation is expected to meet with Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) and the government in a confidence-building measure aimed at avoiding misunderstanding over air movements.

The reopening, announced by the Turkish General Staff, was timed to coincide with a meeting in Brussels of Turkish Foreign Minister Ihsan Sabri Caglayangil and his Greek counterpart, Mr. Dimitrios Mitsos.

They arranged the talks while in the Belgian capital for a NATO Council session.

The telephone line between Eskisehir and Larisa was closed after the Turkish invasion of Cyprus in 1974.

Agreement to reopen it was reached in Turkish-Greek talks in Paris last month. The dispute has interrupted normal civil air links between the countries.

Amnesty International launches new campaign

LONDON, Dec. 11 (R). — Amnesty International has opened its "prisoners of conscience" campaign year with an appeal for the release of 67 journalists and writers detained on political grounds throughout the world.

The London-based human rights organisation, whose campaign coincided with United Nations Human Rights Day, said in a pamphlet that journalists and writers were particularly vulnerable to political imprisonment.

It said that a list compiled by Amnesty and published last May named 67 journalists and writers imprisoned in 17 countries.

This list was by no means exhaustive because of restrictions on information in some countries, it added.

Amnesty said that there was a pattern in which a journalist was liable to arrest, imprisonment and other forms of harassment after reporting on some issue which use politically sensitive to the government.

The pamphlet contained a petition for the release of all political prisoners. Amnesty hopes it will attract some two million signatures to be presented to the U.N. in a year's time.

A service was held yesterday at Westminster Abbey under the auspices of Amnesty to mark the inauguration of prisoners of conscience year.

Aden minister in France seeks to boost ties

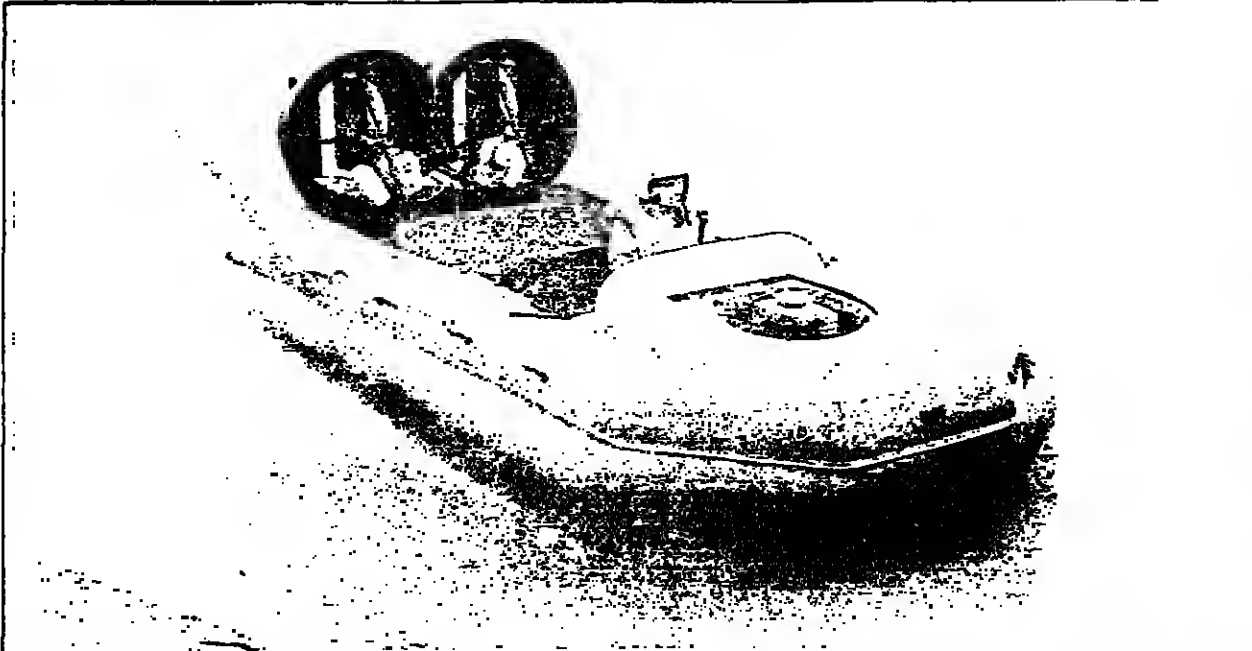
PARIS, Dec. 11 (AFP). — South Yemeni Foreign Minister Saleh Mouth has ended a three-day official visit to France, seen by observers as a first step towards increased cooperation between the two countries. Trade exchanges began two years ago.

Last night he met Secretary of State for Overseas Departments and Territories Olivier Stirn, after talks with Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs Christian Taubert on possible agricultural and industrial cooperation.

The talks covered South Yemeni development projects in which France could participate. Mr. Mouth said there was a possibility of French firms cooperating with the Aden government in anticipation of expropriation of the British Petroleum refinery in Aden.

Possible South Yemeni exports of cotton and agricultural products to France were also discussed. South Yemen at present buys 88 times more from France than it sells.

Mr. Mouth said after meeting French President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing yesterday he hoped the two countries would cooperate to ensure Red Sea stability and security after the French Overseas Territory of the Afars and Issas (Djibouti) becomes independent next year.



UTILITY HOVERCRAFT HOLDS DISTANCE RECORD — Skimming across the water at the recent Southampton Boat Show is the British "Skima 4" — the world's first production four-man hovercraft. By completing a 483-km journey over inland and coastal waters, the Skima 4 has set a light hovercraft distance record. The hovercraft is capable of top speeds of 40 km/h with full payload on land or water.

Malnutrition: It strikes rich as well as poor

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11 (AFP). — Malnutrition is no longer confined to the developing world — it is becoming an increasingly serious problem in the industrialised world where it is caused by overeating, according to a report published today.

The study, carried out by the private organisation Worldwatch Institute, said that people who overeat, like those who are undernourished, have shorter lives, are more susceptible to illness and

have a lower output than average in their work.

It sets out a list of ailments brought on by the consumption of rich food: Heart disease, diabetes, hypertension, obesity, and cancer of the intestine, among others.

These illnesses, the report noted, affect not only the populations of the rich countries of North America and Europe, but also the well-to-do in Africa, Latin America and Asia.

Worldwatch Institute says the protein food requirements of rich countries sometimes contribute to the shortage of food supplies in developing countries.

For example, it said, Brazilian farmers have boosted their soybean crops to meet world demand for cattle feed.

But in order to do so they have had to reduce their output of haricot beans, the staple food of Brazil's poor families, thus increasing undernourishment.

The report pointed out that of the industrialised countries only Norway and Sweden had adopted food policies, and called on other countries to follow their example.

"Governments have a responsibility to build a structure of economic incentives and institutions that encourages healthy food production and consumption patterns," it went on.

"Few potential social policies promise so many benefits and so few costs as the decision to alter the affluent diet," it said.

RADIO JORDAN

(On 856 KHZ)	
2.30	Pop music (USA)
7.00	Breakfast show
7.30	News bulletin
7.40	Morning melodies
8.00	Sign off
12.00	Pop session (Part I)
12.30	Catch the word
1.00	News summary
1.03	Pop session (Part II)
2.00	News bulletin
2.15	Radio magazine

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Hani Gharaybeh	Aqsa
Met'eb Khalaf	Saleh
Zarqa :	Taxis :
Radwan Abu Hammad	Khyam (41541)
Pharmacies :	Asfour (23231)
Amman :	Firas (23427)
Omar (42737)	Al Mahd (22038)
Kholi (25290)	

AMMAN AIRPORT

Departures :	Arrivals :
8:45 Cairo (EA)	8:00 Cairo (EA)
9:30 Rome	8:40 Dubai, Abu Dhabi
10:00 Larnaca	9:40 Kuwait (KAC)
10:30 Cairo	11:20 Dair Al Zor, Damascus, (SAA)
10:30 Kuwait (KAC)	11:25 Rawalpindi (BA)
12:00 Aqaba (SAA)	12:15 Beirut (MEA)
12:00 London (BA)	14:10 Aqaba (SAA)
13:15 Beirut (MEA)	14:50 Riyadh (SDI)
14:45 Damascus (SAA)	16:20 Muscat, Dubai, Bahrain (GA)
16:45 Riyadh (SDI)	17:10 London
17:10 Larnaca (GA)	17:15 Cairo
18:55 Baghdad, Dhahran	17:55 Amsterdam, Brussels, Geneva
19:00 Bahrain, Bangkok	18:15 Rome
20:00 Kuwait	18:20 Athens, Larnaca
20:30 Tehran	20:00 Copenhagen, Frankfurt, Paris
21:00 Jeddah	

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Fire headquarters ...	" 22090
First aid, fire, police ...	" 19
Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) ...	" 36381-2
Municipal water service (emergency) ...	" 37111-3
Police headquarters ...	" 39141
Najdah, roving patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help	" 21111, 37777

Cultural Centres

American Centre (USIS) ...	Tel. 41520
British Council ...	" 36147-8
French Cultural Centre ...	" 37009
Goethe Institute ...	" 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre ...	" 41203
Amman Municipal Library ...	" 36111

BBC RADIO

GMT	
05:00	News; Press Review
05:15	New Ideas
05:25	Book Choice
05:30	Featuring...
05:45	Letter from America
06:00	News; Press Review
06:30	Sarah Ward Requests
07:00	News
07:15	Our own correspondent
07:30	Featuring...
07:45	As I See It
07:55	Book Choice
08:00	News; Reflections
08:15	World Radio Club
08:30	The Pleasure's Yours
09:00	News; Press Review
09:15	From the Weeklies
09:30	New Ideas
09:45	Sports Review
10:15	Music from Ireland
10:30	Sunday Service
11:00	News
11:15	Our own correspondent
11:30	Theatre of the air
12:30	Classical Guitar
13:00	News; Commentary
13:15	Letter from America
13:30	World Service Short Story
13:45	Sandi Jones Requests

JORDAN TELEVISION

Channel 3 & 6	Channel 6
6.00 Quran	7.30 News in Hebrew
6.05 Cartoons	7.45 Varieties
6.30 Space 1999	8.30 Love thy neighbour
8.00 News in Arabic	9.10 Civilisation
Channel 3	10.00 News in English
7.30 Young Dr. Kildare	10.15 Mannix (on both channels)
8.30 Arabic series	
9.10 Reportage	

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Uranium reprocessing promises to create serious problems

BARNWELL, South Carolina — It sits at the end of a South Carolina back road, a mass of concrete and pipes capped by a tall smokestack and looks like any of the huge chemical plants that ring many major American cities. But this one is different.

It offers a chance to reuse one of the country's dwindling natural resources to generate electric power. But at the same time, it will produce lethal liquids that could poison the planet for centuries to come.

It is a nuclear fuel reprocessing plant, capable (its owners claim) of "laundering" the impurities out of spent nuclear fuel rods and allowing much of the uranium in them to be used again.

Conceivably, it could reduce the country's reliance on imported fuel sources for power generation. It could mean less mining of uranium and theoretically might even lower the cost of consumer's electric bills.

Too, it might unleash poisons into the environment that will endanger humans. And it might produce plutonium, a raw material for bombs -- and a substance that terrorists could use to hold the world hostage.

Is stretching the country's nuclear fuel supply worth the risk?

The question flared during the presidential election campaign. And now that the election is over, President-elect Jimmy Carter must play a key role in providing the answer.

The technology to reprocess uranium fuel rods has been available for years; the federal government has used it to produce plutonium for nuclear weapons.

But no privately owned commercial facility ever has operated at a profit.

One in West Valley, New York, closed in 1972, reportedly after losing millions of dollars. General Electric sank millions into a plant in Illinois before concluding not to open it.

Now comes Allied General Nuclear Services (AGNS), a combine of Allied Chemical, Gulf Oil and Royal Dutch Shell, with its one-third-completed plant here in South Carolina.

The plant now is ready to receive fuel rods, dissolve them in acid and reclaim the uranium from the acid solution. But left behind will be high-level radioactive liquid wastes and plutonium in a liquid form.

The federal government is uncertain on how best to handle either of these potentially lethal substances. Technology to solidify them is now being perfected.

AGNS had hoped to open the Barnwell plant in stages, reclaiming the uranium but storing the liquids until the question of how to dispose of them is ultimately settled, and the necessary solidification facilities could be built.

But several environmental groups have challenged the wisdom of such a plan in the courts and before the federal Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC).

The start-up of reprocessing at Barnwell has been delayed for over two years now, and each additional year costs the company some \$10.6 million.

Meanwhile, the stockpiles of spent fuel at nuclear-power plants mount each year. One study by the federal government concluded that if the Barnwell plant is not opened in 1978 -- and it will not be -- six nuclear reactors either will need additional storage for spent fuel, or will have to shut down.

Building more storage chambers is expensive, as is mining more

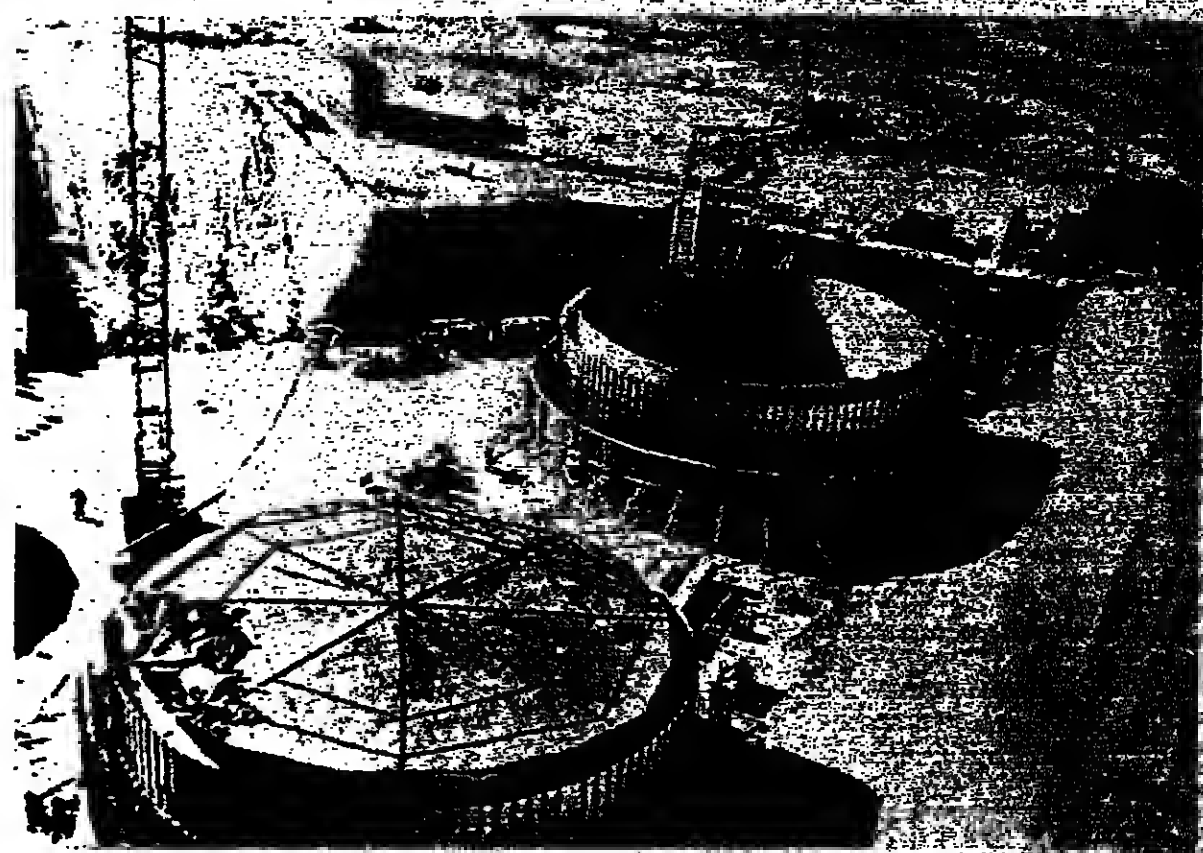
uranium to replace the spent fuel rods.

Electric power companies -- and ultimately individual consumers -- pay the multi-million-dollar bill. And U.S. citizens likewise seem destined to pay for all or part of the plant here in South Carolina, in one way or another. If it eventually opens, it would have to cover its losses by charging more to "launder" spent fuel. The higher costs would be passed on in the form of higher electric bills.

And one proposal, put forward by AGNS, would have the federal government share in the cost of the plant's completion and operation in order to "demonstrate" that nuclear fuel can be economically recycled.

This plan was thought to have found favour with President Ford, and he reportedly instructed Robert Seamans, head of the U.S. Energy Research and Development Administration (ERDA), to consider joint operation of the facility with AGNS. Just before the election, however, the president seemed to have cooled on the idea.

But the election of Jimmy Carter -- himself a nuclear engineer -- changes all that. During the



Waste storage tanks at Allied General Nuclear Services' one-third-completed plant in Barnwell, S. Carolina, that would "launder" spent nuclear fuel rods.

campaign, Mr. Carter talked of making the Barnwell plant an "international centre" for fuel reprocessing. This was one element of his plan to halt the spread of plutonium in the world; other countries would either use the Barnwell plant or be denied U.S. aid to build their own nuclear facilities.

But such a plan seems to many to suggest a complete federal take-over of the AGNS facility, even though its owners stress that the facility is "not for sale" at present.

Whether Mr. Carter includes funds for purchase or joint operation of the facility in his budget proposals next January will be an early indication of his attitude towards not only reprocessing, but to the entire nuclear industry.

According to some, the plant is too important not to open.

Reprocessing will stretch the country's available uranium supply by 20 per cent and in 20 years will save the country \$10.2 billion over the cost of disposing of spent fuel and mining new uranium, says Robert I. Newman, Vice President of AGNS. In one year, he asserts, the plant can produce uranium equivalent to 290 million barrels of oil.

Pulling out a portable calculator, he punches in a few figures, then announces: "That's equivalent to \$3.5 billion. Now that's conservation of resources if I've ever heard of it."

But Ruth Thomas is not impressed. Neither are the handful of people that make up her organization, Environmentalists, Inc. They are convinced that a major accident at the plant would endanger not only South Carolinians, but perhaps the entire country as well.

Even in normal operation, they charge, the plant will create radioactive gases and wastes that will have untold impact on the environment.

In two years of hearings before the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and the courts, Environmentalists, Inc., and other environmental groups have fought licensing of the facility.

Here are some of the thorny questions they raise and the company's answers:

-- What about radioactive gases emitted from the plant's smokestack?

Temperature inversions occur an average of 43 days out of 100 at the Barnwell plant. Environmentalists worry that a cloud of radioactive gas could be stagnated over the South Carolina country side.

Mr. Newman counters that the radioactive emissions -- primarily of carbon 14 and krypton -- are insignificant. A person standing at the plant's boundary would receive about the same amount of

radioactivity as when watching colour television, he declares.

-- What will happen to the plutonium created as a result of reprocessing? Where will it be kept pending a decision?

One proposal would allow plutonium to be mixed in with uranium to form a new type of reactor fuel. But the federal government has been considering this plan for three years, and no decision is in sight.

Even if the government eventually decides to allow the use of mixed fuels, how would the plutonium be safely transported from Barnwell to a mixing plant?

One solution is to locate a nuclear fuel-mixing plant in Barnwell, thus avoiding having to truck plutonium over highways or rail tracks.

However, the only company with plans to build such a mixing plant, Westinghouse Corporation, looked over the Barnwell area and instead decided to locate in Anderson, South Carolina -- about 150 kms. distant.

-- What should be done about the radioactive wastes produced from reprocessing?

Plans are to store the liquid wastes temporarily in huge stainless steel tanks at the Barnwell plant.

The federal government has declared that after five years, the wastes must be solidified and after 10 years must be shipped to a federal repository. But no method of solidification has been decided upon; no site for the repository has been chosen; and there is no timetable for beginning construction of it.

And what if delays in making these decisions require the construction of more tanks at Barnwell -- at a cost of \$25 million apiece? This cost will be passed along to the electric companies who use the plant and in turn to their customers.

The same is true for the cost of building a plant to solidify the wastes -- estimated at \$130 million.

-- What about the possibility of an earthquake at the facility?

Barnwell is on the edge of a high-risk earthquake zone. In 1886 an earthquake shook Charleston, South Carolina, some 125 miles away, causing extensive damage.

Mr. Newman says the building in Barnwell is designed to withstand a similar quake today -- if it occurred in Charleston. He concedes that an earthquake at or extremely near the plant could cause a spill of radioactive materials but says the contamination would be localised. Besides, he notes, a quake powerful enough to destroy the building wouldn't leave anyone alive nearby.

This is faint assurance to environmentalists, who note that ground water is some 7 metres below the surface, and that the nearby Savannah River could spread the lethal radioactive materials.

AGNS counters that the ground would filter out the radioactive particles, and that it would take hundreds of years for the wastes to travel even a few miles.

-- What about sabotage or man error?

Some environmentalists, as Prof. Curtis Rhodes of the University of South Carolina, fear that a terrorist could "otage" the plant. One method, for example, is stopping the flow of cooling water to the storage tanks. Heat would build up, and the liquids would boil away. The wastes would be left in a powder form, which could then become airborne, he says.

But Mr. Newman rebuts, there are three separate cooling lines, two of them buried underground. Even if these were cut, he says, it would take 76 hours for the liquids to evaporate -- enough, he says, to restore flow of cooling water.

As for human error, he says, sophisticated "accident analysis" have shown that there are several backup systems to prevent any conceivable foul-ups.

These are the sorts of questions that have been asked about the past few years, and no answers are in sight.

Another "energy crisis," sparked by another oil embargo, or mean a push for the opening of the plant.

But how much, if any, federal money should be involved?

When President Ford mentioned federal funds to assist in the start-up, critics protested the U.S. would be bailing out a "white elephant."

Mr. Newman bristles at charges, responding that partnership between the federal government and AGNS would mean to eliminate many of the uncertainties that have prevented start-up of the plant.

He points out, quite correctly, that AGNS invested its money when the now defunct Atomic Energy Commission was urging the private sector to enter the nuclear arena.

Now, he says, the signals neither red lights nor green lights. All the company wants, says, is a clearcut federal policy -- not a bail-out.

"To me, a white elephant, something of no value," Mr. Newman says. "And I don't know anyone would categorise what have here as of no value. I'm talking about our investment in the nation's economy... Do we want to hold ourselves up to Arabs? Do we want strip miles and miles of miles of rail tracks to ship coal?"

But Mrs. Thomas takes a different view, charging that "important, big decisions are being made on incomplete information, and promises. Statements are being made as if they are fact. The public takes the health safety risks of nuclear power. Now they're being asked to take the financial risk as well."

Growth in nuclear stockpiles brings horror of holocaust ever nearer

WASHINGTON, D.C. — World nuclear stockpiles, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), amount to about 50,000 megatons (millions of tons) of explosive power -- that is 15 tons of TNT-equivalent per capita worldwide.

These estimates are made in a new edition of the SIPRI Handbook on Armaments and Disarmament.

ament in the Nuclear Age, whose thesis is that technological advances in the nuclear age and recent qualitative breakthroughs in strategic armaments offer "real ground" that further armaments may threaten the very survival of mankind.

While the substance of SIPRI's warning is not new, it brings it up to date.

About 10,000 tactical nuclear

weapons -- quite distinct from the strategic ICBMs -- are deployed, the book says, in NATO and Warsaw Pact countries. That would be equivalent to 700 million tons of TNT or 50,000 Hiroshimas.

"Bombardment of Europe by only a tiny fraction of these weapons could easily eliminate the entire urban population by blast alone," SIPRI asserts, while large casualties would also be caused by nuclear fallout.

The institute holds that in the 30 years since Hiroshima the nuclear arsenals of the great powers have grown so large as to be grossly in excess of any conceivable need, political or military, of these powers. As a consequence, it believes that the possible consequences of nuclear warfare are growing more terrible and the probability of its taking place is increasing.

The basic theses of the SIPRI book are, however, rejected by such an authority on modern war as Leon Goure of the University of Miami.

Professor Goure contends that the civil defence built up by the Soviet Union over the past 10 years would greatly reduce Soviet casualties in a nuclear war. And he counsels the Western powers to do likewise as soon as possible.

Professor Goure contends that the "overkill" estimate made by professional disarmament specialists such as SIPRI are greatly exaggerated and that the devastation caused by nuclear attack would be much less than is alleged.

The SIPRI book goes on to allege that, including 1975, cumulative world military expenditure since the end of World War II amounts to something like \$7,000 billion at present (1976) prices.

On the average, it says, world military expenditure in real terms increased at an annual rate of 4.5 per cent between 1945 and 1975. Compared to the period 1925-38, it continues, the quantity of resources devoted annually to armaments has, on the average, been more than five times as large since World War II. That figure would be 7.5 times as much, if the rapid rearmament immediately preceding World War II is excluded.

During the period 1950 to 1970, the institute calculates, about 7 to 8 per cent of world output was going to the military -- more than double the amount devoted to military research and development. This proportion grew from 1 per cent between the two world wars to 10 to 15 per cent from the late 1950s to the present.

The institute estimates that 400,000 scientists and engineers are now engaged worldwide in improving existing weapons and designing new ones.



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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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Q.1—North-South vulnerable as South you hold:
♠K1052 ♥KJ ♠A73 ♠Q952
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1♥ 3♦ 3NT Pass
4♥ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

A.—Since partner has removed your game bid, he has either a hand that is exceptionally distributional or one that is rich in high cards. In either case, you could hardly have a better hand for him, so slam is a live possibility. To indicate your aspirations you should cue-bid four diamonds.

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠A843 ♥AK104 ♠A ♠AQ63
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1♠ Pass 1♦ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

A.—This question is perhaps a bit too easy. You have an enormous hand despite the fact that you have only a singleton in partner's suit, and the way to convey that information is with a jump shift. We would choose two hearts, since that is our stronger major. Don't even contemplate three no trump—you have an unbalanced hand and you should make every effort to describe it. Also, it is a fallacy to believe that, since partner didn't respond in a major, he can't have four hearts or four spades.

Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠KQ105 ♥95 ♠KQ983 ♠85
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1♠ Pass 1♦ Pass 2♥ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

A.—Two spades. Since you don't know the basis of partner's jump shift (he might have diamond support), or where the hand should be played, you should just continue describing your hand. Don't bid no trump—either you or partner can do that later if a fit is not uncovered. This happens to be the companion hand to the one shown in the previous problem. As you can see, the hands offer an excellent play for six spades.

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠85 ♥A76 ♠KQ ♠AK8742
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1♠ Pass 1♦ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

A.—It is close between two clubs and three clubs, and we favor the more conservative action. For a jump rebid we would really like to have a better suit. In addition, the bare king-queen of diamonds might not be carrying their full weight. If partner cannot make a second bid of his own volition, it's unlikely that we will miss a game.

Q.5—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠95 ♥10432 ♠K84 ♠A762
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1♠ Pass 1NT Pass 3♦ Pass ?
What do you bid now?

A.—The first option to rule out is three no trump—neither of your stoppers in the unbid suits is the type to suggest that no trump might be the right spot. Also, you should avoid raising partner's second suit, especially when it is a minor, with only three-card support. By a process of elimination, the "false" preference of three spades is the best choice—partner surely has at least a five-card suit on the bidding.

Q.6—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠AK76542 ♥Q63 ♠QJ74
Partner opens the bidding with three clubs. What action do you take?
A.—Pass. Three spades might well be a better contract, but there is no way you can play there. A new suit response to partner's preemptive opening is forcing, and any rebid by partner could only exacerbate this situation.

Q.7—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠J74 ♥A9762 ♠83 ♠J92
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
1♦ Pass 1♥ Pass 2NT Pass ?
What action do you take?

A.—Pass. When vulnerable, we normally strain to reach game, especially when partner has shown a strong hand, because the rewards for winning the rubber are great. However, there are bounds to our optimism. Even though partner has a balanced 19 or 20 points, we just can't see where dice tricks are going to come from opposite this collection of trash.

Q.8—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♠Q1072 ♥95 ♠J873 ♠854
The bidding has proceeded:
North East South West
2♥ 2♠ ?
What action do you take?

A.—Double. This serves as a warning to partner that your only useful values are in the opponents' suit. If he bids on, you can judge what to do based on this knowledge. Should partner elect to pass, you will certainly be in your best spot. You will contribute at least two tricks to the defense, and partner is likely to add a handful of his own from his wealth of high cards.

NON-STOP FLIGHTS BREAK ALL RECORDS

NEW YORK, (CSM)—The plane roars down the runway and climbs steeply into the clear night air. Moments later Tokyo is a fast disappearing twinkle of lights behind us.

Less than 12 hours later (the time varies depending on the strength of the tail winds) the tyres squeal on impact as the jumbo jet touches down at New York's John F. Kennedy airport. A vast ocean and a huge continent—10,000 kms. in all—have been spanned in a single hop.

Such flights in both directions have become daily events in recent months. And now San Francisco-Auckland, New Zealand, and Sydney, Australia-San Francisco links are one-hop flights. The ultra long-distance flight, then, is an established fact and soon may become commonplace.

The jumbo jets, and in particular Boeing's 747 SP (special performance) plane, make these distances possible. Pan American World Airways pioneering New York-Tokyo runs use the 747 SP, and the company employs the same plane for its San Francisco-Auckland, Sydney-San Francisco runs.

The Sydney-to-San Francisco run (with tail winds to help) is 10,700 kms. long and is the longest one-hop regular commercial flight ever attempted. But Boeing's George Bouvet is quick to point out the distance is well within the plane's limitations.

In March this year the 747 SP set a world record when South African Airways took delivery of a plane a few miles north of Seattle and flew it non-stop to Cape Town on the southern tip of Africa—a distance of 15,500 kms.

When Pan Am recognised the desirability of non-stop flights between New York and Tokyo,

it approached Boeing about a modified version of the 747 which makes up the bulk of its fleet.

Boeing's response was to chop off the back cabin of the big craft and build a stubby version—16 metres shorter than a standard 747. In the process, the passenger capacity was reduced to 266, though Pan Am carries no more than 220 on its outward-bound flight because of head winds.

By eliminating the refuelling stop, the New York-Tokyo run has been cut by three hours to bring the total flying time to roughly the length of a pre-jet age, U.S. trans-continental flight.

"In those days, too," points out Pan Am's Jeff Kriendler, "New York to Tokyo, with five refuelling stops in between, took 70 hours to complete. We've come a long way in the past 20 years."

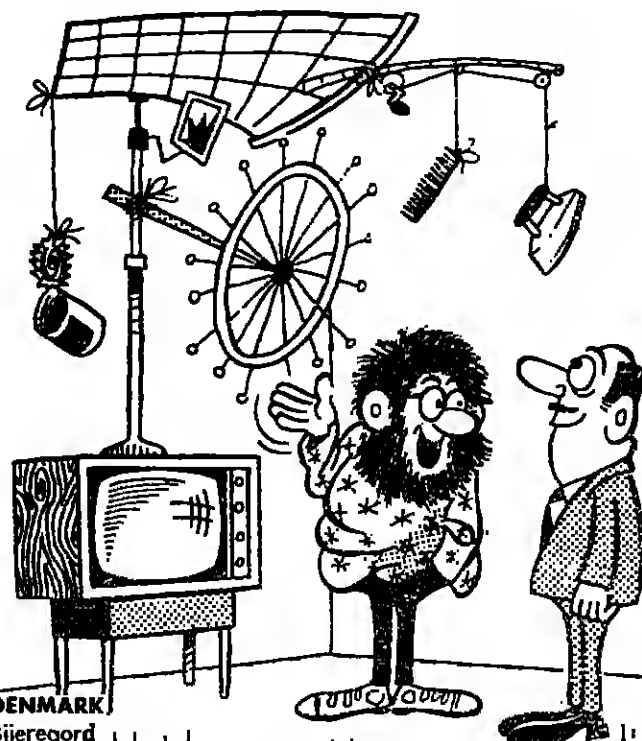
Meanwhile, the Brazilian airline, Varig, has invested in the Douglas DC-10 for its 8,500 km. Rio de Janeiro-to-Rome flights and British Airways is using the Lockheed L1001 for its 9,000 kms. London-to-Rio flights.

The experience of all these airlines indicates a decided passenger preference for the non-stop flight. Not only is the flying time reduced, but there is that much less congestion at airports when refuelling stops are eliminated, Mr. Bouvet points out.

The technical ability exists to build planes capable of much greater distances than the present long-distance giants, but none will be produced until the demand arises, says the Boeing executive.

The ultimate plane in this category, of course, will be one capable of going half way round the world on one fuel load.

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Your Horoscope

By Jeanne Dixon

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

Your birthday today: Life rolls on in about the same grooves most of this year, but provides plenty of chance to perfect personal skills, put your judgment into practice. You exercise your free will mainly by your choices of response rather than by taking direct action. Relationships require much serious thought. Today's natives are pleasant, orderly, logical. Those born this year have a propensity toward all things metaphysical, will be conscious of influences other people shrug off or merely let slip by.

Aries [March 21-April 19]: Welcome a quiet Sunday. With the holiday season coming along, you've plenty of plans to make. Look over lists, allot budgets. Check on health for endurance.

Taurus [April 20-May 20]: Establish communications with your neglected self. Recall bygone events. By quietly reevaluating current relationships, you come to terms with reality.

Gemini [May 21-June 20]: Today's surface is slow, nothing special goes on outwardly. For a change, you are free to reorient inwardly, find you've changed your mind on subtle issues.

Cancer [June 21-July 22]: Your main problem is lack of anything serious or urgent. You're on your own to make decisions. Small talk runs in cycles, has a message of emotional support.

Leo [July 23-Aug. 22]: It seldom happens: the easy

way out is the best today. Look about, be thankful for existing benefits. List what to do to get on faster with your progress.

Virgo [Aug. 23-Sept. 22]: Push yourself to do essential maintenance chores. Serious study is a natural daytime program, social gatherings are successful tonight.

Libra [Sept. 23-Oct. 22]: With no big story to focus on, people zero in on trivial details, pick out flaws and discrepancies. Keep your sense of humor intact.

Scorpio [Oct. 23-Nov. 21]: The tough pressures of the past week are over, so let up abruptly and give yourself a breather. Repay social calls.

Sagittarius [Nov. 22-Dec. 21]: Make full use of this calm before the onset of the holiday rush. Clarify your position. Adventures are the beginning of important developments.

Capricorn [Dec. 22-Jan. 19]: Finer points are clarified. Stories brought up to date are comforting. Evening provides opportunity to explore a variety of social contacts.

Aquarius [Jan. 20-Feb. 18]: Step aside from material concerns. Get to know people better and compare experiences. Conversation with a stranger gives you much to talk and laugh about.

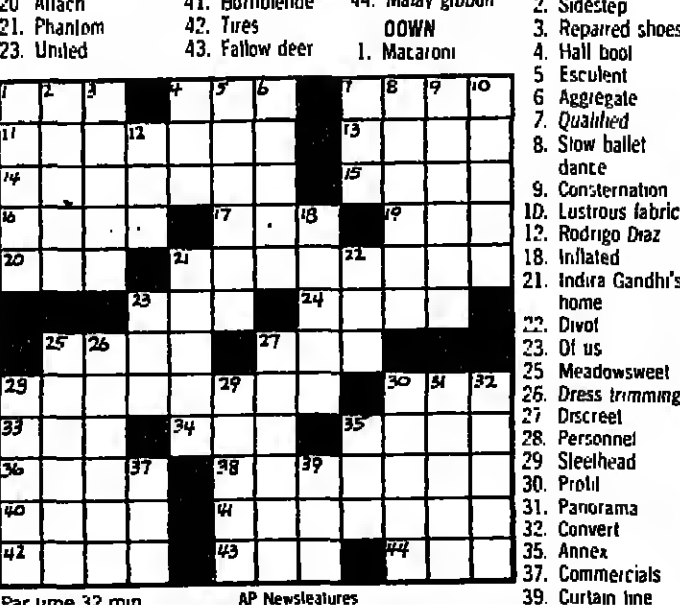
Pisces [Feb. 19-March 20]: If you can, take the day off for vacation-traveling. Youngsters have a knack for stealing the scene. Find a brief answer for nosy onlookers.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

ACROSS
1 Ballet step
4 Sulk
7 Used in cooking
11 Salad fruit
13 Impression
14 Canvass
15 Acrid
16 Telhered
17 Brnge
19 Gypsy horse
20 Allach
21 Phantom
23 United

DOWN
2 Heath
5 Polato
6 Accomplished
8 Vigorous
9 Actress Gardner
10 Caution
12 beforehand
13 Projection
14 Melanous
16 "Casta diva"
18 Survive
20 Ward off
21 Hornblende
22 Ties
24 Fallow deer

SOLUTION OF YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE



Par time 32 min. AP Newscliques

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DICHE
NEFEC
HORBET
THODEB



Going out—don't know when I'll be back
FAMOUS LAST WORDS

Print answer here:

Answers Tuesday
Yesterday's Jumbles: PROXY CABIN EYELID GOODY
Answer: Where the hypochondriac soldier liked to spend his time—IN A PILLOX

TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURES

MANNIX

COLOUR OF MURDER

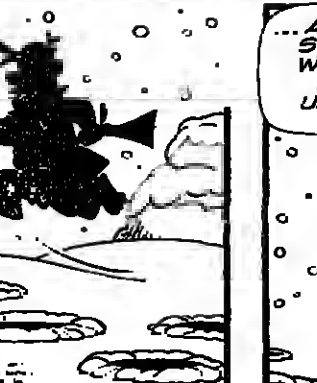
After six years following the death of her father, rich girl hires Mannix to investigate his mysterious death.

SPACE 1999

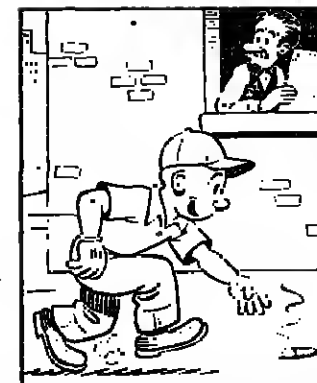
SEED OF DESTRUCTION

An ice-cold replica of Commander Koenig takes control of the Moon—and orders its destruction.

THE FLINTSTONES



MUTT AND JET



Gunmen kidnap president of Spain's top Advisory Council of State

MADRID, Dec. 11 (R). — Gunmen believed to be Basque guerrillas seized the President of the Advisory Council of State today in the country's most important kidnapping since the Spanish civil war.

The seizure of Senor Antonio Maria de Oriol y Urquijo, 63-year-old former justice minister, came only four days before a national referendum on constitutional reforms.

Police sources said Senor Oriol, who comes from one of the richest and most powerful families in the northern Basque region, had previously received threats from the Basque nationalist guerrilla organisation ETA which is fighting for home rule.

His kidnapping was expected to harden the attitude of extreme rightwingers who plan to vote "no" in the referendum on proposals for political reform next spring.

The Council of State advises the government on legislation and is

second in importance only to the Council of the Realm which advises King Juan Carlos.

An anonymous telephone call to the local newspaper Informaciones received five hours after Senor Oriol's abduction, said he "has been executed by the people."

The caller said the announcement was by ETA, but the editor of Informaciones said he could not guarantee that the announcement was authentic.

Eyewitnesses differed on whether there were five or six kidnapers. Four walked into his Madrid office with sub-machine guns, made his son and a number of clerks lie on the floor and led him off to a waiting car.

A clerk who lunged at the gunmen was knocked down and kicked repeatedly.

Father Fulgencio Martin Lucas, a priest who runs a scholarship foundation set up by the Oriol family, told reporters he saw Senor

Oriol and two young men walking down the stairs to the lobby.

"He seemed pale and I thought the two men were helping him because he was ill," he said.

A policeman assigned to Senor Oriol as bodyguard was in another part of the building when the kidnapping took place.

Interior Minister Rodolfo Martin Villa cancelled speaking engagements in the northwest town of Santiago de Compostela and flew back to Madrid to confer with Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez.

The Interior Ministry, in a statement, said: "The government is not disposed to let these acts influence the Spanish political process because this process tends basically to strengthen the will for harmony and unity of all Spaniards."

It said all measures would be taken to arrest the kidnapers.

A lawyer, Senor Oriol was appointed president of the Council of State by the late Gen. Franco in 1973 after serving as justice



Senor Antonio Maria de Oriol

minister for eight years. He is also a member of parliament.

The kidnapping came two months after ETA guerrillas assassinated Senor Juan Maria de Araluce, a member of the Council of the Realm, in San Sebastian. The ETA also assassinated Prime Minister Luis Carrero Blanco in Madrid in 1973.

Police said tonight they had found the car used by Senor Oriol's kidnapers abandoned in a Madrid suburb.

Cars leaving Madrid were being checked and road-blocks were also set up in the Basque provinces. Extra security precautions were imposed along the northern frontier with France.

Within hours of the kidnapping, rightwing politicians were clamouring for tough government action and leftists were condemning the abduction as a threat to Spain's democratic hopes.

Former Foreign Minister Gonzalo Fernandez de la Mora, head of the rightwing Union of the Spanish People to which Senor Oriol belongs, said the kidnapping showed there was a power vacuum and called for "an energetic change."

Portugal's Soares faces "vote of confidence" in local government elections

LISBON, Dec. 11 (R). — Portugal's Socialist government faces a crucial test in local government elections tomorrow.

The vote for 45,000 town hall and parish representatives amounts to a virtual plebiscite on the performance over the last five months of Prime Minister Mario Soares' minority administration.

The socialists, with 107 seats in the 263-seat National Assembly have been criticised by parties to their right as incompetent and attacked by the left for unpopular austerity measures.

Sunday's vote, the first free election in Portugal for local officials, is the third major poll held this year. Lack of interest is expected to produce a lower turnout than on the previous occasions.

Voters may also be put off by a recent wave of bombings which have caused considerable discomfort, although no casualties.

In the past few months the government has been conducting several meetings to study ways by which the performance of its administration could be developed and the quality of public services improved.

I believe no one would argue against setting this as the number one priority on the list of Mr. Mudar Badran's newly formed cabinet, especially since the government has been broadening its economic role through vital participation in financing and initiating several industrial and commercial projects hand in hand with the private sector. Hence an efficient public administration is crucial and significant for the successful operation of the Jordanian economy. But we must admit that the modernisation and revolutionisation of the traditional routine of the government is one of the most persistent and challenging tasks that has faced consecutive cabinets over a good number of years.

In my opinion, what makes the task of reforming the government apparatus difficult is its institutional nature and the multi-faceted nature of this huge organisational body. So, I think to allocate more resources would not solve the inefficiency of the government's functioning real changes in the organisational structure are required to bring more effective reforms to public administration. As we know, government offices include many efficient people — unfortunately placed at the wrong posts — as well as many inefficient people holding a considerable number of posts. Therefore, I believe to tackle this problem properly real determination and support from the highest power in the land is required to back up the recommendation that will result from the governmental study.

On the other hand, to deal with the pro-

blem of the low productivity of the public servant, we need a comprehensive and realistic investigation into the causes of the problem; for example why is it that in some government offices the employees do not actually work more than two hours a day? Is it true that the pay such employees receive is responsible for this low productivity?

Every one will argue that the governmental job market has lost its old appeal, the face of competition from the private market inside the country and outside Jordan as well. So, the low salary scale of the government makes it much less competitive attracting qualified personnel than the private sector. But we must emphasise, although it is true that a good salary is an important factor for employee loyalty and the urge to do a good job, can be bought by money alone. It may prove to be more important for an organisational structure to make clear to each employee what he is supposed to do, to whom he is responsible, and the part he should play in the overall picture than to pay a higher salary.

As public administration has become highly refined science, we think the simple principle to follow is to have a description for every job which defines clearly the duties, rights, responsibilities, authority that goes along with the job; it will be possible to point out poor performance, corruption, or misuse of authority.

In theory, this seems very nice, but practice, to apply the job description requires real determination and a very strong stance against evasion of responsibility, indiscipline and the tendency of employees to do things their own way at their own pleasure.

Top Soviet expert names SALT, Mideast peace as urgent problems awaiting Carter

MOSCOW, Dec. 11 (R). — The Soviet Union's top expert on the United States said today that a number one priority for President-elect Jimmy Carter should be movement in the long-stalled Strategic Arms Limitation Talks (SALT).

Professor Georgy Arbatov, director of the institute for the study of the United States, was writing in the Communist Party newspaper Pravda about current relations between the superpowers.

Other questions which Professor Arbatov listed as needing a quick solution were:

Reconvening the Geneva conference on the Middle East.

An agreement on force reductions in central Europe.

"Tangible results" and "new initiatives" in implementing decisions of the 1975 European security conference, and

"The creation of normal conditions for the development of economic contacts" between the Soviet Union and the United States.

The statements by Mr. Carter and his nominated Secretary of State Cyrus Vance on future ties with Moscow had been noted in the Soviet Union as having "a positive character," Professor Arbatov wrote.

Four bombs damaged two major Lisbon suburban train lines on Monday, derailing a train and forcing more than 100,000 people to walk to work.

Interior Minister Manuel da Costa Brás last night appealed on television to voters not to be intimidated by the bombings. He said the government had taken strict measures to prevent any further outrages.

Eleven parties or electoral fronts are presenting candidates for 3,262 parish councils and 274 town halls and municipal assemblies. Only four are likely to make any impact.

If the course they had on SALT were followed consistently, said, "a real possibility of opening up... for achieving... movement ahead... in the main problems of current international relations."

But the professor said final conclusions "to be drawn about the future of U.S. and much still remains unclear, the more because the enemy detente have still not laid their arms."

Professor Arbatov, who is a member of the policy-making Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party, said the "timed speech" would be important when Democrats took over in the U.S. House next month.

"The solution of a whole series of pressing problems of American relations cannot be off and infinitum. And in so these problems the ball is in the American court (both in the present and future administration)," he wrote.

Disappointment with NATO conference clouds Warsaw Pact ministerial meet

VIENNA, Dec. 11 (R). — Defence Ministers of the seven-nation Warsaw Pact conferred in Sofia today amid communist press warnings that NATO was stepping up the arms race.

A commentary in the Bulgarian military newspaper Narodna Armiya said cooperation between the forces of the pact was necessary because of the threat of "imperialist aggression". NATO was stepping up the arms race while the Warsaw Pact threatened nobody, the article said.

The meeting of military leaders, which opened yesterday, is being held less than a month after a Warsaw Pact summit in Bucharest took steps to improve political consultation within the alliance.

Soviet Defence Minister Marshal Dmitry Ustinov, who succeeded the late Marshal Andrei Grechko, is attending for the first time.

Meetings of defence ministers usually end with a brief unrevealing communique giving little indication of the real military decisions taken.

Today's Narodna Armiya commentary, quoted by the Bulgarian news agency, said the meeting would contribute to "raising to a higher level the cooperation and further consolidation of the defensive capacity of the Warsaw treaty, and raising the combat capacity and combat readiness of the fraternal armies."

The commentary contrasted the "peaceful strivings" of the Warsaw Pact with the "aggressive objectives" of NATO, which held its year-end meetings of defence and foreign ministers in Brussels earlier this week.

The Brussels meetings turned down a proposal by the Warsaw Pact that the two alliances agree not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

In Prague, the Communist Party paper Rude Pravo said NATO's rejection of his proposal showed that the Western alliance was remaining "true to its cold war origins."

In France, a senior Soviet Communist Party leader, Mr. Boris Ponomarev, today vigorously condemned increases in NATO's military budget and said the Soviet Union had been cutting military expenditure for the past four years.

Mr. Ponomarev, Secretary of the party's Central Committee, and head of the Kremlin's international department, was speaking at a meeting organised by the Franco-Soviet Friendship Society to assess results of the 1975 Helsinki conference on European security.

The consolidation of peace and the process of defence in the world has run up against several difficulties," Mr. Ponomarev said at Royamont near Paris. "At the moment there is an intensification of militarist forces and an increase in foreign interventions — in the politics of states."

He said the 10 major European members of NATO had increased their military budget by more than £2.8 billion in 1975.

But for the past four years the Soviet Union has reduced its military spending by more than £162 million annually, he said.

Mr. Ponomarev attacked several countries, which he did not name, saying they were interested only in the third "basket" of the Helsinki declaration on European security, which deals with the free exchange of people and ideas.

"These countries use it (basket three) as a kind of carte blanche to interfere in the internal affairs of the Soviet Union," he said.

U.K. football roundup

Snow, frost cancel 29, stop 4 matches

LONDON, Dec. 11 (AFP). — Snow and frost played havoc with the British football programme for the second Saturday running. The icy conditions not only stopped 29 matches in all in England and Scotland getting under way, bringing the football "pools panel" into action again, but also caused the abandonment of four others.

The weather was also partly responsible for the freezing out of the "minnows" in the second round of the F.A. Cup, the skill of their more experienced opponents on difficult pitches winning the day.

Thus, only the names of Kettering Town of the southern league, who eliminated another non-league side, Tooting and Mitcham of the Isthmian league, by one nil, and northern premier league side, Gole Town, and Isthmian league Hitchin Town, who managed to hold league opponents to one all draws, will go into the hat together with the giants of the first and second division clubs when the third round draw is made here on Monday.

Kettering reached the third round for only the second time in their history and their one nil victory over the Londoners took their unbeaten run in all competitions this season to 29.

Other non-league survivors, Hillingdon, Enfield and Wycombe, failed to make the big-time.

Back in the league, all eyes were on the "big spenders" Everton who splashed out nearly £400,000 this week for Anderlecht's Duncan Mackenzie and Derby Country's Bruce Rioch. It looks as if the Merseysiders will have to spend some more money, on bolstering the defence, for they crashed four two at Coventry. The Liverpool team will prefer to blame a frozen pitch and foggy conditions.



THE HIGH COST OF DIVORCE — World heavyweight boxing champion Muhammad Ali says in an interview Friday that he has decided to "unretire" from boxing. Earlier this week, Mr. Ali had said he was going into retirement; but Friday he said the terms of his divorce settlement had made him change his mind. (AP wirephoto).

WORLD NEWS BRIEFS

● GENEVA, Dec. 11 (R). — King Khaled of Saudi Arabia arrived here today on the first stage of a 10-day private visit to Europe, an airport spokesman said.

● AMMAN, Dec. 11 (R). — Saudi Arabia's Minister of Industry and Electric Power, Dr. Ghazi Abdul Rahman Al Qussaiybi, left Riyadh for Baghdad today for an eight-day conference of Arab industry ministers, Riyadh Radio reported. They will discuss the long-term strategy of Arab industrial development, the radio added.

● KUWAIT, Dec. 11 (AFP). — Touring North Yemeni government envoy Salem Bassendowah appealed to Arab states here today to help North Yemen "ensure the defence" of the strategic Bab Al Mandeb Strait between the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean. North Yemen closed the strait to all air traffic on Nov. 29 after repeated incursions by Israeli planes. North Yemeni radio, quoted by the Middle East News Agency in Cairo, said North Yemeni forces would open fire on planes violating the ban.

● AMMAN, Dec. 11 (R). — Bulgaria's Prime Minister Stanko Todorov left Baghdad for home today after a five-day official visit to Iraq, Baghdad Radio reported. During his stay his delegation signed an accord providing for increased cooperation with Iraq in agriculture, industry, biological research and foreign trade.

● KUWAIT, Dec. 11 (AFP). — Kuwait has promised to support Ecuador's request to join the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, an authoritative Kuwaiti source said today. Kuwaiti backing was asked today by Ecuadorian emissary Ottavio Viza in a talk with Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad.

● TEL AVIV, Dec. 11 (R). — The Israeli military authorities in the occupied West Bank today released from house arrest Mrs. Raymond Tawil, a French-born, "pro-Palestinian" journalist. Mrs. Tawil was put under house arrest in Ramallah four months ago, after she was accused of "incitement" during disturbances.

SHARBAIN'S BOOKSHOP

invites you to the first:

MEDICAL BOOK EXHIBITION IN JORDAN

To be held at the Library of the University of Jordan for Dec. 12-15, 1976.

Dec. 12-15, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.

PRESS-ADVERTISEMENT FOR BAZAR

The Jordanian-German Friendship Society will hold its annual Bazar on Dec. 17-18 (Friday and Saturday) from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Goethe-Institute, Jabal Amman.

Members and friends are cordially invited.

The following items will be on sale:

Handicrafts, ceramics, semi precious stones, glass, leather goods and cakes.

The traditional brioche antique shop will also be open again.

Special feature as always: RAFFLES with over 100 valuable prizes including free flights of several airlines.

REGISTRATION OF BRITISH SUBJECTS

British subjects resident in Jordan are invited to

register or re-register for the year 1977 during January at

the Consular Section of Her Majesty's Embassy, Amman.